GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4044
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
FLAWS IN MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether C&AG has recently found flaws in the functioning of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in some States/Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps the Government proposes to take to check the flaws in the scheme for smooth implementation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) & (b): The C&AG in their report for the year ended March, 2005 on the performance audit of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had pointed out certain inconsistencies in the coverage of Mid-Day Meal Programmed in Chandigarh, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Punjab. The matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments/UTs for clarification.

(c): With a view to ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Programmed, the Central Government has issued instructions and is encouraging states to make arrangements for local level monitoring, involving representatives of Gram Panchayats, Members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) etc. Local level monitoring would ensure regularity and wholesomeness of the meal served to children. In addition instructions have also been issued for slow-motion display of information under the Right to Information Act on the quantity of food grains, ingredients received and utilized. Officers of the State Governments periodically inspect schools and centers where the programmed is being implemented. At the national level, regular meetings are conducted to review the progress of the programme.